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M.L.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1600 Market Street  
Examiner : Suite 3600  
Serial No. : Not yet known Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Filed : January 11, 2000  
Inventor : Florian Lesage, et al. Docket: 989.6351DIV  
  
Title : Family of Mammalian Potassium Channels, Their Cloning And  
: Their Use, Especially For The Screening of Drugs

Dated: January 11, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination , please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please incorporate the attached Sequence Listing into the specification of the present application.

This Sequence Listing is identical with that filed in parent application Serial No. 08/749,816, filed November 15, 1996.

IN THE CLAIMS:

N.E Delete claims 49-53 and 58-67.

Add the following claims:

R1.126 15: A method of screening for a substance capable of modulating the activity of a mammalian protein comprising 2 P domains and 4 transmembrane segments, which protein is competent to transport potassium across a membrane, comprising contacting pre-selected amounts of the substance to be tested with cells expressing the potassium transport channel, measuring the effects of said substance on the potassium transport activity of the protein, and identifying the substance that has a positive or negative effect on said transport activity.